

## NEWS

## Keeping a Safe Environment



## Creating safe environments for children: What can parents do?

The following is a summary of an article written by Jennifer Wooden Mitchell and Rosemary Wooden Webb of Child Lures, Ltd.

It is the role and responsibility of adults to protect children. However, the reality is that adults cannot be with youngsters every minute of every day. By talking openly with students about what constitutes healthy and respectful social relationships, we help them better recognize all forms of mistreatment, including sexual misconduct, bullying, cyberbullying and peer abuse.

Parents and schools alike best serve students' safety by discussing personal boundaries, promoting mutually respectful relationships and giving children age-appropriate tools to recognize and avoid grooming/predatory behaviors. Parents and teachers can help kids identify trusted adults to whom inappropriate behaviors and breaches of school policy can be reported, ideally prior to the occurrence of abuse. It's important to discuss and eliminate feelings of guilt and blame often experienced by kids who are mistreated.

While it's not always easy to be the person who recognizes warning signs, questions violations of policy, and/or communicates them to appropriate authorities, we can take heart in knowing the reward is immense: the intact health and safety of each child. And remember, the vast majority of people are kind, safe and committed to the well-being of children; those who mistreat youngsters are the exception. By taking an active role in promoting safe school environments, parents and teachers help ensure that children learn and grow under the protective eyes of educators, parents and fellow students alike.

Safe school action steps: (1) promote an open door policy; (2) ensure that all one-on-one time with a student occurs in public areas and is observable by other adults; (3) familiarize all school staff and volunteers with grooming techniques, signs of abuse and reporting procedures; and (4) establish, maintain and communicate school policies and procedures around child personal safety in visible and accessible ways.

For more information visit: [www.childluresprevention.com](http://www.childluresprevention.com). This information was provided by the Archdiocese of Hartford's Office of Safe Environment.

[www.archdioceseofhartford.org](http://www.archdioceseofhartford.org)

# Installation rite plans are under way

By Mary Chalupsky  
Transcript Reporter

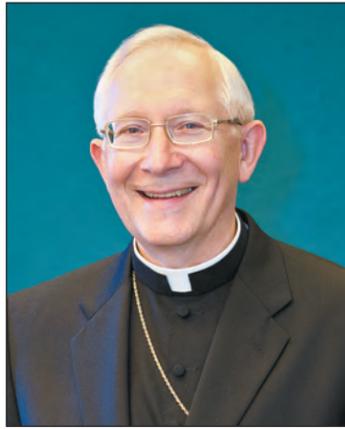
HARTFORD – Invitations have been mailed and plans are under way for the installation of Archbishop-designate Leonard Paul Blair as the fifth archbishop of Hartford on Monday, Dec. 16, at the Cathedral of St. Joseph.

"This is an exciting time for the Archdiocese of Hartford," said Father Jeffrey V. Romans, assistant chancellor of the Archdiocese, who is organizing the event with Maria Zone, director of communications. "We're making arrangements to make this a very fitting event for welcoming our new archbishop into our archdiocesan family."

According to Father Romans, all of the cardinals and bishops in the United States have been invited to the installation. Those archbishops and bishops in attendance will concelebrate the Mass with Archbishop-designate Blair in the presence of the cardinals.

Invitations also went out to priests, deacons and their wives, seminarians, and men and women religious of the Archdiocese of Hartford; Bishop Blair's classmates from the seminary and priests from the Diocese of Toledo, where he has served for 10 years; colleagues who worked with Bishop Blair during his assignments at the Vatican; and his personal friends and relatives, including his sister Patricia and niece Annie.

Also invited are: six representatives of each parish in the archdiocese, employees of the archdiocesan Chancery and offices,



Archbishop-designate Leonard P. Blair will be installed as the 13th bishop and fifth archbishop of Hartford on Dec. 16 in the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Hartford. At right is the design of his coat of arms.

representatives of the Knights of Columbus, Knights and Ladies of St. Peter Claver, Knights and Ladies of Malta, Knights of the Holy Sepulchre, Knights of St. Gregory, principals of the Catholic elementary schools and high schools, and 105 students from schools in each of the three vicariates of the archdiocese.

Entry to the cathedral, which seats 1,750 people, will be by invitation only. It is expected, however, that with additional seating in the choir loft and sanctuary, an estimated 2,000 people will attend the ceremony.

Father Romans said that the installation ceremony will begin at 1:30 p.m. with a formal procession into the cathedral followed by the Mass of Installation at 2.

Archbishop-designate Blair will be greeted at the interior glass doors



of the cathedral by Archbishop Henry J. Mansell. Archbishop Mansell will present him to Msgr. John J. McCarthy, rector of the cathedral and record-keeper for the archdiocese, who will hold a crucifix for Archbishop-designate Blair to kiss. Archbishop-designate Blair will then sprinkle those around him with holy water before the procession continues into the sanctuary.

Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganò, apostolic nuncio to the United States, will preside over the introduction from the bishop's chair (*cathedra*). The *cathedra* is located on the left side of the altar from the congregation's perspective.

As papal nuncio, Archbishop Viganò serves as the personal representative of Pope Francis to the United States. In this capacity, he has the responsibility of installing the archbishop.

The papal nuncio will preside over the introductory rites. Father Romans said that he will begin the installation rite by reading the Oct. 29 letter from Pope Francis appointing Archbishop-designate Blair as the fifth archbishop of Hartford.

Archbishop Viganò will hand the papal bull to Msgr. McCarthy, who also is the chancellor for the archdiocese, who will in turn bring the letter to the College of Consultors, showing it to each member to ensure its authenticity as required by Canon law.

The College of Consultors comprises Bishop Christie A. Malcaluso, Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus Peter A. Rosazza, Msgr. John J. McCarthy, Msgr. James G. Coleman, Father Lawrence R. Bock, Father James A. Shanley, Father Shawn T. Daly, Father Gerald H. Dziedzic and Father Daniel G. Keefe.

Archbishop-designate Blair will be escorted to the *cathedra* by Archbishop Viganò. Once seated, Archbishop-designate Blair will receive his crosier, or pastoral staff, from the papal nuncio. At that moment, Archbishop-designate Blair officially takes his position as archbishop of Hartford.

Representatives from various walks of life in the archdiocese will then come forward to greet Archbishop Blair at the *cathedra*, including permanent deacons, men and women religious, lay faithful, a youth representative, a family representative, an ecumenical representative and an interfaith representative.

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## Archbishop asks for prayers for priests at end of Year of Faith

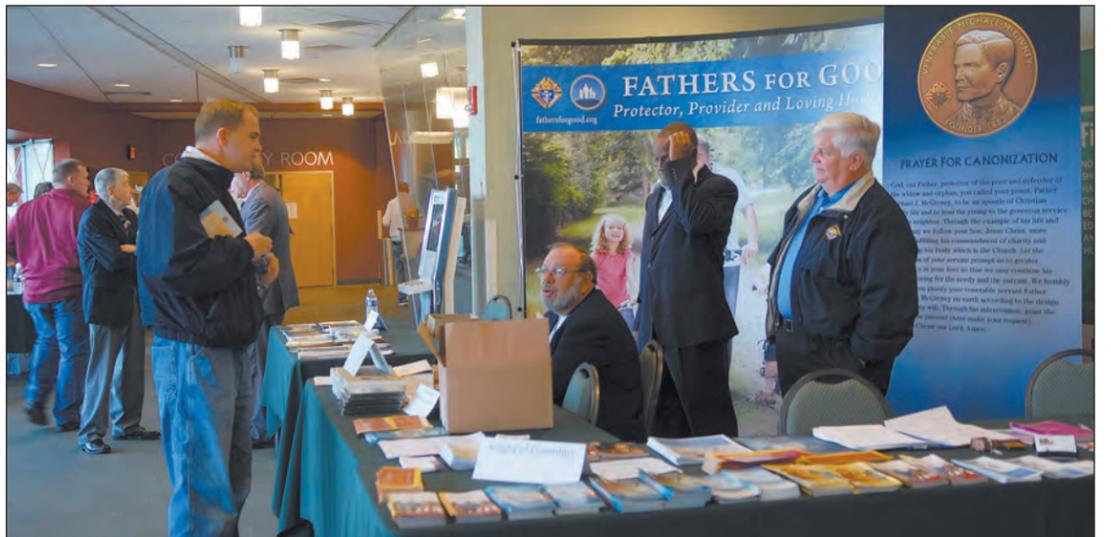
HARTFORD – As the end of the Year of Faith approached, Archbishop Henry J. Mansell urged people to pray for a priest in the Archdiocese of Hartford.

In a message dated Nov. 11 and posted on the Archdiocese of Hartford's website, the archbishop wrote:

*Dear Friends in Christ: One of the priorities for us during the Year of Faith has been to reach out to others, to invite people back to the practice of their faith, and to share with others our faith. In other words, we were called in a unique way to evangelize. As the Year of Faith draws to a close on November 24th, the Solemnity of Christ the King, it is important that we continue on our journey of evangelization.*

*As you know, our priests play a crucial role in evangelization, and I would like to encourage you to "Pray for a Priest" in our Archdiocese during the last two weeks of the Year of Faith. Choose a priest you admire, one who may have had an impact on you growing up, the priest who married you or administered the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation or Confirmation to your children, or perhaps, your parish priest for being a good role model.*

*Our priests give themselves in untold ways day in and day out for the good of the Church. Please join me in this "Pray for a Priest" effort in gratitude for our priests and in petition for the graces they need to carry on their faithful ministry.*



**BROTHER KNIGHTS** – Michael Klinger of Wethersfield, left, speaks with fellow members of the Knights of Columbus at their vendor table at Goodwin College in East Hartford Oct. 26 during a break in the sixth annual Connecticut Catholic Men's Conference. (Photo by Jack Sheedy)

## Catholic men's conference attracts hundreds from across the state

By Jack Sheedy  
News Editor

EAST HARTFORD – About 400 men from parishes across the state gathered to see and hear an impressive lineup of motivational speakers at the sixth annual Connecticut Catholic Men's Conference at Goodwin College Oct. 26.

With Pope Francis' namesake, Saint Francis of Assisi, in mind, organizers chose "Rebuild" as this year's theme. As Norwich Bishop Michael R. Cote outlined in his remarks, Jesus spoke to Saint Francis from a crucifix and said, "Francis, rebuild my Church."

"And he responded to that graphical call for discipleship," Bishop Cote said. "He embraced the poor and what the world rejected. He accepted them, and he lived a life totally dependent upon the Lord. His example has lived for

over 1,000 years and continues to inspire followers of the Lord to our own day."

Father John P. Gatzak, director of the Archdiocese of Hartford's Office of Radio and Television, emceed the event, as in most years past. In his opening remarks, he urged the men to avoid living a "safe" life but to follow the example of Mary, Mother of God: "Be surprised by God, as Mary was," he said.

Dr. Bryan Thatcher, founder of the Eucharistic Apostles of Divine Mercy, spoke about practicing Divine Mercy in everyday life. A medical doctor turned evangelist, Dr. Thatcher discussed Saint Faustina, whose diaries are considered divine revelations about the merciful side of Jesus.

"I used to think I was a great physician," he said. "That was not the case." He said he only healed

through Jesus' mercy.

"Divine Mercy is really what I'm all about. Years ago, I was at a conference and somebody asked me, 'Doctor, what's your claim to fame?' And the first word out of my mouth was, 'Weakness.' Divine Mercy is not really a new message; it's really a reiteration of sacred Scripture," he said.

How strong is our Catholic faith? "If terrorists came in here and said they were going to kill all the Catholics, would they have enough evidence to convict me?" he said.

How completely do we forgive others? "We bury the hatchet," he said, "but we remember where we buried it – just in case."

"I thought he [Dr. Thatcher] was excellent," said Tom Santopietro, whose father, Ken Santopietro, organized the event. "I connected

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## Installation rite

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As the installation rite concludes, Archbishop Blair will be the principal celebrant of the Mass. Prayers of the Faithful, coordinated by Lucy Zocco, assistant to the director of the Office of Divine Worship, will be offered in languages that represent the various communities in the archdiocese.

Men studying for the priesthood in the archdiocese will also participate in the installation ceremony as

The installation Mass will be televised live on WCCT-TV. Preliminary plans also call for it to be broadcast on EWTN, Catholic TV, the archdiocesan website and WJMJ-FM radio.

servers at the Mass. The Serra Club of Hartford will serve as ushers.

Music is being coordinated by Dr. Ezequiel Menéndez, cathedral music director. The Cathedral Choir, choir members from all Catholic high schools in the archdiocese, and music directors and cantors from various churches have been rehearsing. In addition, a 10-piece brass ensemble with musicians from New York, Boston and the Hartford area will perform. The conductor for the liturgy is Dr. Edward Bolcovak, head of the vocal department at the Hart School of Music at the University of Hartford and choirmaster at the Cathedral.

Deacon Paul Sullivan of the Diocese of Providence, R.I., oversaw the design of the coat of arms for Archbishop-designate Blair. The new design will incorporate the coat of arms for the Archdiocese of Hartford on the left side, with Archbishop-designate Blair's personal coat of arms on the right.

Sullivan Bros. Inc. of Waterbury is hand-crafting the wooden coat of arms that will be placed on the *cathedra*.

Following the closing prayer and recession from the cathedral, a light reception will be held at the Aetna building on Farmington Avenue to allow the faithful the opportunity to meet Archbishop Blair. Guests attending the installation will receive a prayer card from the new archbishop to mark the occasion. (The prayer card will be available to all 700,000 parishioners throughout the archdiocese following the installation.)

A supplement to *The Catholic Transcript*, prepared in honor of the occasion, also will be available at the reception. It will be mailed with the January issue.

The night before the installation Mass, Archbishop-designate Blair will meet the priests of the archdiocese at a dinner followed by evening prayer (vespers) at St. Thomas Seminary in Bloomfield.

The installation Mass will be televised live on WCCT-TV. Preliminary plans also call for it to be broadcast on EWTN, Catholic TV, the archdiocesan website and WJMJ-FM radio.

Archbishop-designate Blair was born April 12, 1949, in Detroit, and ordained a priest of the Archdiocese of Detroit on June 26, 1976. Appointed an auxiliary bishop of Detroit on July 9, 1999, he was ordained a bishop on Aug. 24, 1999, and appointed bishop of Toledo in 2003.

He succeeds Archbishop Mansell, whose resignation was accepted by Pope Francis on Oct. 29. Archbishop Mansell, who has served as Archbishop of Hartford since December 2003, is 76. Canon law requires bishops to submit their resignation to the pope at 75. Archbishop Mansell will live at St. Augustine Parish in South Glastonbury.

## Catholic men's conference

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with him. He kept me interested the entire time."

The elder Mr. Santopietro told the *Transcript* that the larger-than-expected turnout was the result of "the power of the Holy Spirit. We continued to do our emails and, through the archbishop's office, the public service announcements." Advance notice in the *Transcript* also helped, he said.

Michael Klinger, a field agent for the Knights of Columbus in Wethersfield, attends the conference every year. He was impressed by Dr. Thatcher's talk.

"A real 'Aha!' moment for me was when he talked about praying to God and trust in Jesus, but not for the outcome that I want because that's manipulating God, but for the outcome that he desires," he said. "That's his plan, thy will be done; that is the kind of prayer for trust that God wants us to have."

Mark Houck, co-founder and president of the King's Men, spoke about the importance of confession, explaining that it leads to a deeper desire for the Eucharist and an increase in personal prayer, especially the rosary.

"The most perfect man sins seven times a day," Mr. Houck said. Going to confession is the only way

to become perfect, he said.

"There are three virtues: humility, humility, humility. It's like the chain in the rosary. Take the chain out of the rosary and all the beads fall to the ground," he said.

In the afternoon session, Father John Paul Duran of the Legionaries of Christ in Cheshire spoke about Pope Francis and the theme of rebuilding the Church. He was followed by Bryan Mercier, a retreat leader, who spoke about his encounter with the Holy Spirit.

Confessions and eucharistic adoration were available throughout the day. Vendors and exhibitors had booths.

Archbishop Henry J. Mansell was the principal celebrant of the closing Mass.

Asked why it is important for men to attend these conferences, Father Gatzak said, "Typically, we've seen that the backbone of our Church have been women, and, unfortunately, men have taken a backseat role very often. However, it's so important that men realize that there is a masculine side to spirituality, and to become a real man – a real brother – in order to live a true life as a male, we have to exercise that spirituality that calls us forth to be instruments of God's love."



**TYPHOON RELIEF** – Filipino volunteers from Connecticut gathered at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in Hamden on Nov. 16 to deliver, collect, sort and package relief items for delivery to communities in the Philippines that were devastated by Typhoon Haiyan on Nov. 8. The volunteers, organized on short notice by the Philippine-American Association of Connecticut Inc., were overwhelmed by the outpouring of support by people who brought food, clothing, blankets, toiletries and money throughout the day. Cecilia Gozo, one of the organizers, noted that the country is 80 percent Catholic. Founded in 1965 by a group of Filipino Yale students and health care professionals, the Philippine-American Association is the longest-running Filipino cultural and civic group in Connecticut. Parishes throughout the archdiocese also had special collections. (Photo by Mary Chalupsky)

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